

Children's Education Comm.

Planning Begins

An exciting aspect of our Congregation's growth has been the increase in younger members of our community. Some time ago, the Va'ad made a commitment to study the educational needs of our children and how to meet them. This was a major topic at last July's Advance.

At the recommendation of President Richard Inlander, the Va'ad established an ad-hoc Children's Education Committee. Sue Douglass, Jonathan Schwartz, Allan Gold, Ida Kuluk, Allyce Kimerling, and Don Albert, Chair, serve on the committee, with Rabbi Kahn an ex-officio member.

During the next few months, the committee will be studying the situation, and hopes to report its findings at the May congregational meeting. As a first step, we will be to gathering information by means of questionnaires, which will be sent to all members with children. Other members interested in providing input may request a questionnaire from the synagogue office. We will also request, and tabulate separately, information from non-members who have attended Family/Children's Havurah events.

In addition to using questionnaire data to assess programming, economic, and logistic needs for children's education, the committee will discuss the resources already available in the community. We hope to create a statement of goals, program recommendations, and a proposed structure for an ongoing Board of Education. Financial considerations will also be addressed.

The Children's Education Committee is dedicated to meeting the needs of as many members as possible. If you have questions or would like to discuss your ideas, please contact a member of the committee or leave word at the synagogue office.

Chanukah Book Faire



Among those attending this year's Book Faire were Rosalinda del Moral, CSZ President Richard Inlander and Vice President Irene Ogus, shown here checking out a purchase. A new feature of the week-long faire this year was a brunch on Sunday, December 6, with a program of several book reviews. Photos by David Stein.



Tzedakah Has No Season

I am relieved that the "holiday season" is finally over (or will be by the time you receive this issue of the *Forward*). The newspapers and TV news have produced their quota of stories about which celebrities volunteered on Thanksgiving at soup kitchens, and which actors participated at holiday fund raising events. While these one-time contributions are certainly important and appreciated, the human needs which our society especially focuses on during the "season of caring" continue throughout the year.

Our tradition does not rely on our good feelings to move us to give "charity." The mitzvah of communal responsibility in Judaism is called *tzedakah*. The root of *tzedakah* means both "righteousness" and "justice" and, therefore, we can translate *tzedakah* as "righteous justice." In a truly just world, no one would go without food — and it is a mitzvah to labor towards that goal. In the meantime, we do justice by providing food directly to those who are hungry.

Our congregation has an ongoing commitment to the Food Bank of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. We are a major donor, and the Food Bank counts on our regular deliveries. You can transform the ordinary, sometimes tiresome task of going food shopping by gift shopping at the market. In addition to your own kitchen's needs, spend a few moments thinking about what you will give to another person. Be practical — chunky soup, canned tuna, peanut butter and the like are always needed. Be imaginative — surprise someone with an unexpected gift. When you put these items in your cart, and when you place them in the baskets at the synagogue, remind yourself that you are fulfilling a mitzvah.

Our first two Sunday brunch programs at Kaiser Hospital for patients with AIDS and their families were culinary delights and festive occasions. Our Bikkur Cholim Committee plans to continue this program on the last Sunday of every month. If every member of the synagogue volunteered to come once, we could easily plan the en-

tire year. Call Howard Bobren, coordinator, at 392-7977 to sign up. The January brunch will be on Sunday, Jan. 31, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

In late November, Sha'ar Zahav began what may soon be a tradition — our first Friday evening children's service. Over 50 members and friends — of all ages — participated in this evening of music, stories and prayer. There are several reasons for a special service for children. Our regular service begins too late for children to attend comfortably; and the music and format of a service for young children are different from those in an adult one. It is not fair to ask young children always to sit quietly through a Shabbat service intended for adults. (Of course, some children enjoy attending the adult Friday evening services, and, like everyone else, they are always welcome there.)

Our goal is to make Sha'ar Zahav a safe and loving home for the children of our congregational family. The children's services we have started will give our young people the chance to learn the music and liturgy of our congregation, so that, when they are ready, they will be able to attend and fully participate in the regular synagogue services. I hope that we will be able to schedule these Children's Services on a quarterly basis.

A gay man, who is a CSZ member, is interested in exploring the possibility of co-parenting with Jewish lesbians. For further information, please contact me at the synagogue office.

—Rabbi Yoel Kahn

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Anniversaries

- | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|
| 1 | M. Paul Schwartz & Philip Gomez |
| 14 | Joey Finkelstein & Claudia Reinhart |
| 20 | Nancy Snow & Dana Vinicoff |
| 28 | Joel Wasser & Robin Barron |

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Sibling Notes

Atlanta: Bet Haverim members will be helping to staff a shelter for homeless women. The congregation hopes eventually to make this a once-a-month mitzvah.

Seattle: *Ha-Tikvah*, the newsletter from Tikvah Chadashah included an article about *Out of Our Kitchen Closets* in its December newsletter. Order forms for the book are being made available, and as one member noted, "Think of what this could do for our potlucks!"

The Jewish Gaily Forward is published 11 times annually by Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, (415) 861-6932. Permission to reproduce non-copyrighted material is freely given, and credit would be appreciated.

Members of the Congregation receive the *Forward*. For a donation of \$12/year, non-members will receive the *Forward*.

All newsletter copy should be typed, double-spaced and is due no later than the date of the Va'ad meeting. It should be sent to the synagogue office, marked to the attention of the *Forward*.

Members of the Newsletter Committee are Bob Goldware (Articles Coordinator), Peter Vishniac (Advertising Coordinator), Howard Blechman, Stephanie Hannaford, Alex Ingersoll, Garry Koenigsberg, Irene Ogus, Alita Rosenfeld and David Stein (general editorial and production); Amy Blasenheim (photos); Frank Hyman, Ben Schalit, Sam Thal and Eli Weinstein (distribution). The *Forward* is typeset by David Lester, Pagesetter Typography and printed by Lou Greene.

Display Ads are \$15 per column inch for non-members and \$10 per column inch for members, with discounts available for size and frequency. Ads should be camera ready; any ads that require typesetting, camera and/or artwork will be subject to a one-time production charge.

Classified Ads are \$5 for up to 20 words, plus \$1 for each 10 additional words. No personals accepted.

Payment must accompany ad and should be sent to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, marked attention *Forward* advertising. The advertising deadline is the 10th of the month. The *Forward* reserves the right to reject any ad for reasons of taste. For more information on advertising rates and charges, call the synagogue office at 861-6932.

Va'ad Report

Richard Inlander, CSZ President, called the December 14 meeting to order and asked Rabbi Yoel Kahn to give a D'var Torah. Rabbi Kahn spoke about the role of leaders, and the way in which seeing such people as "other" can be a source of misunderstanding. Instead of seeing another person, we see an "other" having certain characteristics that define him or her. We should remember, however, to see other persons as created in God's image. We need to view them not only in their roles as synagogue officers or committee chairs, but — first of all — as human beings.

A report from Mike Rankin, Sha'ar Zahav's UAHC Liaison, indicated that the Northern California Regional AIDS Committee will hold its first meeting on February 4. Mike will be on the committee and others are invited. His report also noted that the latest issue of *Keeping Posted* is devoted to AIDS.

Treasurer Eric Keitel discussed highlights from his monthly statement. He also reported that Paul Cohen is the new coordinator of the Cookbook Project. Paul and Eric now have responsibility for cookbook distribution and accounting. CSZ has now paid virtually all of the expenses of publishing the cookbook, which has been selling very well. Richard commended Eric for the job he is doing as Treasurer.

The Va'ad voted unanimously to appoint Ora Prochovnick as Congregation Sha'ar Zahav's representative to serve on the board of the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations.

Richard presented for discussion a policy proposed by Vice President Irene Ogus concerning final approval of synagogue publications. Several opinions and suggestions were voiced, and there was general support for exploring this issue, but further discussion and consideration by the Va'ad will be required.

Richard proposed appointing Daniel Chesir and Tiela Chalmers to investigate models for a long-term planning process for Sha'ar Zahav, and to make a report to the Va'ad. This proposal was approved.

The Va'ad unanimously approved the expenditure of \$200 from the Li-

brary Fund to purchase books for the Sha'ar Zahav Library. The Va'ad also authorized \$700 from the Prayerbook Fund to reprint Sha'ar Zahav's Friday Evening Prayerbook with a number of important revisions and a more resilient binding.

Don Albert reported on the first meeting of the Children's Education Committee, which will gather information to identify the general goals, needed programs, logistics and scheduling, and available community resources. Questionnaires will be analyzed, and other sources of information researched. The results will be reported to the Va'ad and the Congregation.

Several of those present at the meeting remarked on Richard's skill as chair of the meeting and expressed their amazement at the amount of work that was accomplished. The meeting ended right on time! We finished at 9:17 with the singing of *Oseh Shalom*.

—Ben Schalit, Recorder

In the Office

The Va'ad is pleased to announce that Jenny Helbraun and Jacqueline Letalien will be Sha'ar Zahav's new office managers. Welcome, Jenny! Welcome, back, Jacqueline! The office hours will be announced in the February issue.

Semester Preview

The "Jewish Life-cycle: Covenant and Commitment" will be the topic of Rabbi Yoel Kahn's winter/spring class. Over the course of three three-week sessions, we will study the history and traditional customs of Jewish life-cycle ceremonies, including brit, bar/bat mitzvah, unions and rituals of death and mourning. Class participants will also develop new rituals for our own community. The class will meet on Tuesday evenings from 7:45 to 9:30, beginning February 16. Watch for more details and registration information in next month's *Forward*.

Letter From the Soviet Union

After spending much of the past year in Israel, Sha'ar Zahavnik Ron Lezell has been traveling throughout Europe. Recently, he sent the following postcard about Jewish refuseniks in the USSR.

Moscow

Dear Friends,

A moving and rewarding experience to meet with Refusenik families, and with individuals separated from their families, here in the USSR. CSZ's efforts in SF and those of all Westerners to assist them are greatly appreciated. This knowledge helps to sustain Refuseniks and other Soviet Jews in their long and difficult struggle with the USSR government — both concerning emigration and the rights of Russian Jews who have not applied to emigrate.

Government denials of a "Jewish Problem" and anti-Zionist rhetoric continue, amid blatant examples of oppression of Jews (and other religious minorities) to practice their faith.

Refuseniks are eager and need to meet with Jews from the West. I can attest to the embracing warmth and hospitality with which you are welcomed. Some are even helpful tour guides to the sights of this powerful land.

Let's keep up the pressure until the gates are totally opened.

L'hitraot,
Ron

Dear Friends,

I would like to say "thank you," and express my sincere gratitude to the many members of our congregation who helped me get through recent hospitalization and surgery, and who have helped in numerous ways upon my returning home.

It is an honor to be part of the family that Congregation Sha'ar Zahav is, and to be blessed with knowing such caring men and women.

Bill Schlichter

Social Action

East Bay Jewish AIDS Network

A new network of AIDS/ARC resources and assistance for the East Bay Jewish Community is being organized in the East Bay by Margo Heda of the AIDS Project of the East Bay, Rabbi Martin Ballonoff of Berkeley Hillel Foundation, and Lawney Baldwin of the CSZ Social Action Committee.

Over 450 cases of AIDS have been diagnosed in the East Bay, and ARC cases are estimated at 10 times that amount. Jews and Jewish families are already caught up in this epidemic. They should not have to deal with this problem alone.

We hope to increase educational programs as well as practical assistance to East Bay synagogues and families. Proposed activities range from speakers for educational meetings, to Shabbat housing for out-of-town visitors. We want people to know that help from a Jewish perspective will be available.

Please consider joining in leading our communities away from fear and isolation as the needs that must be met and solved are addressed. The next meeting of the East Bay Jewish Community AIDS Network (JEWCAN) is expected to be held in late January or early February at the Berkeley/Richmond Jewish Community Center. For more information, leave a message for Margo Heda, Monday through Friday, 9 am to 5 pm, 841-1727.

—Lawney Baldwin
Social Action Committee

A butcher, a baker, a
candlestick maker?

Or possibly a therapist,
accountant, painter or
retailer?

If you wish to increase
your business, consider
placing an ad in *The
Forward*.

For details, contact Peter
Vishniac, 553-8676.

Adult Bnot/Bnai Mitzvah

Are you interested in becoming a bat or bar mitzvah? Have you wondered: "What does it mean? and, What do I have to do?" Rabbi Kahn will hold an informational and organizational meeting for adult CSZ members who are interested in studying for bat or bar mitzvah, on Monday, January 18, at 8 pm in the Library. We will discuss the significance of an adult bat/bar mitzvah, and the preparation required to celebrate the ceremony at Sha'ar Zahav. Please call the synagogue office if you plan to attend or have any questions.

Gifts to PWA/ARC

On Wednesday evening, December 16, a group of CSZ members gave of their time and talents by responding to a call for assistance from Trey O'Regan, coordinator of the AIDS Support Group of the Most Holy Redeemer Church.

Each year at this time, MHR gathers donations of food, personal items, small gifts and teddy bears, and packages them in festive holiday baskets that are distributed to people with AIDS/AIDS-related complex at SF General, Coming Home Hospice, Kaiser, Garden Sullivan, R.K. Davies, Pacific Medical Center, Mt. Zion, St. Luke's and Shanti residences.

Because of the anticipated increase in the number of baskets needed this year, O'Regan came to CSZ and received an immediate offer of labor to help construct the holiday gift baskets, as well as donations from several generous members.

The members of CSZ who participated in this mitzvah enjoyed a pleasant social evening with the MHR AIDS Support Group and set the stage for future cooperative community works with other religious groups sharing the same goals.

Many thanks to all those from CSZ who participated, including: Matt Biers, Amy Blasenheim, Larry Daniels, Jeff Davidson, Yoram Gal, Robin Leonard, Michael McCormick, Ron Moskowitz, Edward Pollack, Richard Sinkoff, Rob Tat, Jerry Wehage and Andy Zimmerman.

This simple, loving gesture brightened the lives of many people in our community, both those who gave as well as those who received.

—David Shaber

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Condolences

We at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav extend our sympathy to the following members who have suffered a recent loss:

To **Bill Schlichter** on the recent loss of his friend, John Sousa.

To **Tom Rothgiesser** on the recent loss of his father, Herman Rothgiesser.

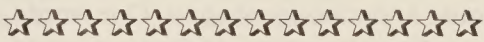
To **Randy Schiller** on the recent loss of his grandmother, Ada Shernock.

JANUARY

טבת-שבת

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					11 Tevet Services, 8:15pm	12 2
13 3	14 4	15 5 Newsletter Comm., 140 Ord, 7:30pm	16 6	17 7	18 8 Services, 8:15pm	19 9
20 10	21 11 Va'ad Meeting, 6:30pm Newsletter Deadline	22 12	23 13 Soviet Vigil, Green & Baker, 11:30am	24 14 Social Action Comm., 7:30pm	25 15 Services, 8:15pm	26 16
27 17	28 18 Bar/Bat Mitzvah Meeting, 8pm	29 19 Lecture: Gold Rush Jewry, 8pm	1 Shevat 20 Rosh Chodesh	2 21 Bikkur Cholim Comm., 7:30pm	3 22 Services, 8:15pm	4 23
5 24	6 25	7 26	8 27	9 28 Newsletter Mailing, 11 Grandview Terr., 7:30pm	10 29 Services, 8:15pm	11 30 Morning Service, 10:30am
12 31 Kaiser Brunch, 10:30am						

Ritual Calendar



Friday, January 1
Parshah: Vay'chi
Leslie Bergson & Steve Greenberg

Friday, January 8
Parshah: Shemot
Nancy Snow & Dana Vinicoff

Friday, January 15
Parshah: Vaera
Rabbi Yoel Kahn & Jose-Luis
Moscovich

Friday, January 22
Parshah: Bo
Tiela Chalmers & Daniel Chesir
Torah Reader: Yoram Gal

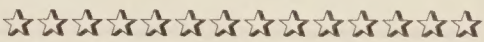
Friday, January 29
Shabbat Shirah
Parshah: Beshallah
Rabbi Yoel Kahn & Sue Douglass
Sermon: Rabbi Michael Barenbaum,
Congregation Rodef Shalom

Saturday, January 30
Saturday Morning Service, 10:30 am
Rabbi Yoel Kahn & Shana Winokur

Friday, February 5
Parshah: Yitro
Garry Koenigsberg & David Stein

Birthdays

- 6 Nathan Robinson
- 8 Garry Koenigsberg
- 9 Max Rosoff-Nichols
- 12 Tiela Chalmers
- 13 Amy Blasenheim
- 19 Mike Rankin
- 19 Yolande Schneeman
- 20 Pamela Singer
- 21 Johanna Johnson
- 21 Stephen Rosenbaum
- 25 Neil Hart
- 25 Dana Lear
- 27 Maacah Marah
- 29 David Nahmod
- 30 Ruth A.
- 30 Aaron Cooper



Who Reads *The Gaily Forward*?

It was the November issue of *The Gaily Forward*, that lay open at the Committee on AIDS booth at the UAHC Biennial. It featured photos of the Names Project quilt panels and the poem in memory of our member Ron Gertz. The two-page spread immediately caught the eye of Rabbi Robert A. Jacobs of Temple Emanu-El on Long Island, the temple that Ron's parents belong to. Rabbi Jacobs was moved to write Howard Blechman, Ron's lover. "I found strength in the knowledge that you have continued and become more active in your congregation ... and that you are using your pain and the strength taken from it to help others confront the sad reality of the AIDS epidemic."

Rabbi Jacobs praised Rabbi Kahn's leadership, and described the AIDS crisis in his own community, Long Beach. He also wrote of apathy within his congregation: "Sadly, it required my publicly reminding the congregation of 'our own losses' to spur them into action. Nonetheless, in terms of suburban congregations, we are moving rapidly and almost beyond my hopes."

All this is tangible proof that the Jewish community is stirring to help fight AIDS. It also demonstrates that our newsletter is more than just an in-house announcement sheet: Our words have far greater impact than we might imagine.

IMAGINE THE POSSIBILITIES

Goal oriented, down to earth counseling in the *here and now* for the individual or couple wishing to work on issues of life's frustrations and transitions, relationships, illness and injury. By appointment.

Carol Fiul, M.A. (IH11341) (415) 921-7918

Our Rabbi in the Community

Rabbi Kahn's activities never stop at the synagogue doors, but the past few months have been exceptionally busy. In recent months, our rabbi:

- Participated in meetings of the Central Conference of American Rabbis' Committee on Homosexuality, the UAHC Committee on AIDS, the Northern California Program Committee of the New Israel Fund, and the Board of Rabbis of Northern California.

- Led a New Jewish Agenda-sponsored Havdalah with singer Ronnie Gilbert at the March on Washington.

- Delivered a sermon at our sibling congregation, Or Chadash while attending the UAHC Biennial in Chicago.

- Spoke on "AIDS and the Jewish Community" to Jewish Family Services of San Jose, the Philadelphia Federation of Reform Synagogues and the Methodist Church's National Consultation on AIDS.

- Serves this year as a Field Education Supervisor for the Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley.

Contributions

Sha'ar Zahav welcomes all contributions, of all sizes, to mark any event, and to any of our funds. Contributions will be acknowledged in the *Forward* unless requested otherwise.

Donations were made to Sha'ar Zahav's funds in past months by the following contributors:

General Fund

Beefeater Foundation, in honor of Mike Rankin

Marlee & Neil Taxy, in honor of Bernard Pechter's birthday

Michael Bettinger & Bob Goldstein, in honor of our ceremony of Kiddushin

Jonathan Funk, in honor of George Lucas & Tom Rothgiesser's 25th anniversary, in memory of Dirk Meyers, in memory of Jim Henderson

Gerald B. Rosenstein, in honor of Rothgiesser-Lucas 25th anniversary

Bernard Pechter, in honor of the birth of Isaac Gershon LaMell

Perry Paker

AIDS Fund

David Shaber

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Stan Osofsky, in honor of Rabbi Kahn for caring

Michael Bettinger & Bob Goldstein, in honor of our ceremony of Kiddushin

Rabbi Jeffrey A. Kahn, Temple Beth-El, in honor of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav's extremely important service to Reform Judaism

Rabbi Michael Barenbaum

David Shaber, in honor of Rabbi Kahn for his caring and guidance

Education Fund

Alice Perlman, in lieu of her lecture fee

Prayerbook Fund

San Francisco State Hillel, in honor of Leslie Bergson and a talk she gave on Judaism and Homosexuality at UCSF



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High Holy Day Contributions

In addition to those we have already acknowledged, we are pleased to recognize the following people who responded to our appeals at High Holy Days with contributions.

Sally Abolitz	Betty Estelle	Kim Klausner	Lisa Orta	Molly Singer
Sharone Abramowitz	Linda Evans	Diann Kramer	Dawn Osterwell	Jennifer Sobol
Randy Alfred	Nina Falk	Margery Kreetman	Daniel Ostrow	Deborah Sohr
Peter Alpert	Lainey Feingold	Jo Kuney	Ronna Perelson	Gary Sokol
Naomi Baran	Scott Feinstein	Karen Landau	Naomi Porat	Ellen Starkman
Melinda Basker	Keith Fenton	Jackie LaPierre	Naomi Prochovnick	Ailsa Steckel
Robert Basker	Isabelle Fishman	David Leeder	Nina Raff	Andrew Stein
Roy Bateman	Sanford Friedman	Steve Leeds	Judith Raiskin	Larry Steinhart
Marc Bender	Judy Freespirit	Joan Lefkowitz	Pearl Raz	Cathy Steirn
Wayne Bender	Robin Furbush	Jack Leibman	Peggy Reamer	Elena Sternin-Moser
Claudia Bernard	Steven Gaynes	Ann Lenway	Debra Rein	Lesley Sternin-Moser
Ilana Berenstein	Linda Gebroe	Rebecca Lewis	Roz Reiter	Judy Stone
Adam Blocie	Carol Gelfer	Diana Lion	Jesse Ribot	Leonard Strahl
Charles Bloom	Sara Glaser	Barbara Loebel	Judy Rosenberg	Janice Strassheim
Lynn Bloomberg	Samuel Gluskin	Steve Lowinger	R.D. Rosenberg	Jane Suskin
Eileen Blumenthal	Deborah Goldberg	Yvette Malamud	Barbara Rosenblum	Marge Sussman
Liz Bogatin	Deborah Goldstein	Jill Mann	Alita Rosenfeld	Marlee Taxy
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Brian Bringardner	Stewart Gooderman	Amy Markowitz	David Rosenthal	Wilma Totulis
Sandra Butler	Alan Gottlieb	Pamela McDaniel	Nadine Rosenthal	Amy Trachtenberg
Rita Cahn	Herbert Gross, Jr.	Donna Medley	Martha Rosett	Sheldon Vile
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Susan Charlip	Jeanette Gurevitch	Sally Meiser	Norman Ross	Wagner
Debra Chasnoff	Stan Hauer	Claudia Mensbach	Margaret Rossoff	Julie Walcer
David Cheifetz	Don Herman	Eve Meyer	Gayle Rubin	Allen Weinberg
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Sally Eckert	Terry Kime	Edward Nemer	Patty Shure	Jon Zingman
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Gerry Eiselman	Judith Klain	Inga Olson	Ellen Smith	

MEMBERSHIP

Check it out.
Besides the benefits
it feels good to be
part of Sha'ar Zahav.

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So Ask Aunt Yente

Dear Aunt Yente,

My doctor is responsible for this question. She has scared me away from ice cream and into eating strange substitutes, made of rice or even wierder things. All the labels says "Kosher and Pareve"; kosher I think I know, but what is pareve?

Cholesterol Conscious on Castro

Dear Conscious,

Good for you and your doctor! Aunt Yente is always happy that her kinderlach are taking care of themselves. (So, you'll make your Aunt Yente look old and dumpy by comparison, and give her more heartache. Don't give it another thought.)

The word *pareve* is used to talk about food that goes with everything. Aunt Yente is not talking here a young zinfandel, but instead food which is neither *milchik* or *fleishik*. So, now is clear?

Oh. So she'll explain. So you should know that from *kashrus*, traditional Jewish dietary law, are three kinds of rules. There are the animals you can eat and the abominations; there are rules from slaughtering, inspecting, and washing meat; and then there are rules from mixing things, which is where *pareve* lives when it is at home.

The Bible says, you should not cook a goat in its mother's milk (your doctor would probably agree, even if you use nonfat); from this, the Talmud decided to forbid mixing any dairy food with any kind of meat, even when the meat was from, *nebbech*, a chicken, where the mother has no milk. (Aunt Yente has wondered why, if a chicken, the rule shouldn't be against mixing with eggs, not with milk; and then, sometimes she wonders, why a duck?)

Next, the rabbis applied the most important rule of *halacha*, which is "Why stop now?" So not only is there no mixing milk and meat, but no eating them at the same meal; there must be entirely different sets plates, and pots, and silverware for each; and between eating meat and eating dairy you must wait a long time. (After you eat dairy, you only need to wait about half an hour before eating meat; but it is six hours the other way, because the rabbis thought that meat lasted a long time in the stomach. Aunt Yente thinks the

rabbis must have been at the same Mexican restaurant she went to last week.)

When she was a little person, your Aunt Yente was always bothered from these rules, because at that time (don't ask) there was no known Jewish food that did not contain either chicken fat, or butter or sour cream. (Thinking back, it was probably only the wisdom of the laws of *kashrus* that kept us from putting the sour cream on top of the chicken fat, finishing us up right there. This proves once again that the Torah is *orech yomeinu*, the length of our days.) Since almost everything was either *milchik* (dairy category) or *fleishik* (meat category), there was *takke* very little Aunt Yente could eat without a complicated schedule from what she had eaten four hours ago and what she wanted to eat later. So it was very nice that at least some foods — a fresh piece fruit, tea with lemon, a piece matzoh with jam — she could eat any time, because they were *pareve*.

Today, Aunt Yente lives in a world of miracles. Not only have we finally merited the gifts of microwave popcorn and diet chocolate fudge soda (*feh*), but great minds have invented many *pareve* substitutes for food that is usually *milchik* or *fleishik*. From soybeans they can make hot dogs; there is the Mocha Mix, for coffee; and then is the ice cream *mishegas*, made from tofu and other things. These may look like products from meat or milk; but because they only have vegetable things in them, they are *pareve*, and can be eaten with anything. (Well, ritually speaking, anyway.)

But, kinderlach, you should know that the *very* Orthodox would have a problem with your ersatz ice cream after meat; not because of the taste (which, as far as Aunt Yente is concerned, is the biggest sin), but because of what it would look like. Someone who might see them eat would think they were eating the real thing, and either make fun ("They may talk about not mixing meat and milk, but I was grazing over at Velvel Lukshen's, and let me tell you!") or, even worse, be mislead ("I always thought you weren't supposed to eat ice cream after

canard garni aux champignons, but if it's good enough for Rebitzen Farfel, it's good enough for me.") So if you find yourself in very *frumm* circles, remember that the proper host or hostess will serve the Mocha Mix, or the Rice Dreams, in its original container, so that there is no question that no unlawful mixing is going on. (Whether the need to eat from the original container increases the number of fat exchanges you are allowed you can discuss with your doctor, but Aunt Yente doesn't think you'll get away with it.)

Aunt Yente was trying to think of a pearl of wisdom to tie all this together, but writing it has made her hungry. So you'll excuse her while she checks her references. (Now she was sure there was a carton of Dreyer's Grand Light here somewhere...)

—Aunt Yente

Dear Kinderlach,

Your letters and questions make Aunt Yente *zehr* happy; without them she would long ago have run out of ideas (and she'll thank you not to say she has anyway). She hopes you will continue writing, but she hopes also you will forgive if she doesn't always answer. To answer individually is too hard for an old woman (actually, Aunt Yente herself doesn't get tired, but she has to rely on someone else to type for her, and between you and Aunt Yente, that one is a little bit of a *shlemiel*). And to answer in the column is not always possible. Every question Aunt Yente gets is wonderful; but some the answer is too complicated (can you imagine, they won't let Aunt Yente fill the whole newsletter); some Aunt Yente can't be funny with; and some she just needs to think about for a long time. But many of the questions eventually she answers; and all of them not only make her think, but help keep her away from the refrigerator. So keep writing, and thank you!

Aunt Yente

Aunt Yente loves to receive your questions about Jewish law and ritual matters, and tries to answer as many as she can in her column (but a guarantee she doesn't make.) Just write her c/o the *Forward*, 220 Danvers Street., San Francisco, CA 94114. All material © 1988 Congregation Sha'ar Zahav.

Yahrzeits

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1 (11 Tevet) Frema Weinstein, mother of Eli Weinstein</p> <p>1 Glenn Childress, brother of Joyce Amburgey</p> <p>3 Mark Pearlman, friend of Steven Nacamulli</p> <p>3 Lonnie Richards, friend of Steven Cronenwalt</p> <p>3 (13 Tevet) Isaac Comerchero, father of Sarah Comerchero</p> <p>5 Joseph Glassberg, uncle of David Glassberg</p> <p>5 Eleanor Raskin Lyons, aunt of Brian Ellis</p> <p>6 (16 Tevet) Seymour Newman, uncle of Laurie Radovsky</p> <p>7 Masha Raskin, grandmother of Brian Ellis</p> <p>8 Marguerite Parsell, aunt of Bill Schlichter</p> <p>8 (18 Tevet) Sophie Singer, grandmother of Laurie Davis</p> <p>10 (20 Tevet) Jack Heller, father of Hal Heller</p> <p>11 Bill Chalmers, father of Tiela Chalmers</p> <p>13 Marion Howes, grandmother of Marion Trentman</p> <p>13 Steve Schwartz, brother of Sandra Schwartz</p> <p>14 Celia Ellis, grandmother of Brian Ellis</p> <p>14 Sam Shaber, brother of David Shaber</p> <p>14 (24 Tevet) Avrum Ya'akov Berenstein, grandfather of Allan Berenstein</p> <p>15 Rose Bud Macks, grandmother of Judy Macks</p> <p>17 Jordan Flyer, friend of Pamela Mara Singer</p> <p>17 Len Krupp, friend of Mike Rankin</p> <p>17 Iris Medina del Moral, stepmother of Rosalinda del Moral</p> <p>18 Ben Blachman, father of Martha and Blanche Blachman, grandfather of Benjamin Blachman-Forshay</p> <p>18 Sophie Rosten, mother of Jerry Rosenstein</p> <p>20 Ralph Douglass, father of Sue Douglass</p> <p>20 Anna Kimerling, grandmother of Allyce Kimerling</p> | <p>20 Sophie Sagorsky, grandmother of Marc Lipschutz</p> <p>22 (3 Shevat) Morris Gabay, father of Ed Gabay</p> <p>22 (3 Shevat) Sol Weinstein, father of Eli Weinstein</p> <p>24 Bill Dobkins, brother of Jim Dobkins</p> <p>24 (5 Shevat) Max Rosenstein, father of Jerry Rosenstein</p> <p>24 Lea Katz, aunt of David Glassberg</p> <p>25 Dan Druid, friend of Alita Rosenfeld</p> <p>25 Mignon Ginsburg, grandmother of Pamela Ruskin</p> <p>25 Lev Liberman, father of Gershon Lieberman, grandfather of Deborah Lieberman</p> <p>28 Estelle Lieberman, mother of Deborah Lieberman, wife of Gershon Lieberman</p> <p>28 Michael J. McCormick, Sr., father of Michael McCormick</p> <p>28 John Selby, friend of Susan Unger</p> <p>29 Joseph Burke, father of Ken Burke</p> <p>30 Alvin Spiegel, grandfather of Ruth A.</p> <p>31 Philip Kalis, father of Betty Kalis</p> <p>31 (12 Shevat) Clare Schmidt, grandmother of Don Albert</p> <p>31 Temple Morris Radovsky, mother of Laurie Radovsky</p> <p>31 Scott Swisher, brother of Rebecca Swisher</p> |
|--|--|

Note: Yahrzeits will be read at services on the Friday preceding the Yahrzeit date.

Remember

to keep us up to date. If you've moved, changed your name, have a new phone number, or wish to add a listing to our yahrzeit or anniversary records, please call or write the synagogue office.

Education Committee

All That Glitters...

isn't gold; and all the personalities in the Northern California Gold Rush weren't non-Jewish. From 1848 to 1879, Jewish women and men were an integral part of the state's history and the rush of the times.

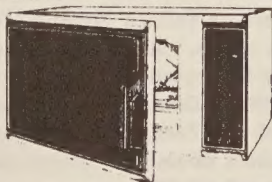
If you're interested in the Gold Rush and its Jewish participants, you won't want to miss the lecture and slide show at the synagogue on Tuesday, January 19 at 8 pm. The lecture is part of our education program. Admission is free.

The lecture is being given by Shirley Kadden, a docent with the Judah L. Magnes Museum. The Magnes Museum, the "Jewish museum of the West," collects artistic, historical and literary materials that reflect Jewish life and cultural contributions throughout history.

For more information, contact the synagogue office.

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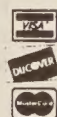
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Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

שַׁעַר זָהָב

220 DANVERS AT CASELLI, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94114

(415) 861-6932

Rabbi Yoel Kahn

Officers:

President, Richard Inlander
Vice President, Irene Ogus
Treasurer, Eric Keitel
Recorder, Ben Schalit

Va'ad (Board) Members:

Tiela Chalmers
Jay Feinstein
Robert Goldware
Betty Kalis
Garry Koenigsberg
Ellen Kugler
Robin Leonard
Alita Rosenfeld
Susan Talley

Services are held every Friday evening beginning at 8:15 pm, with an Oneg Shabbat following services. Services are generally held on the last Saturday of each month at 10:30 am—check calendar for each month.

Committee Chairs:

Bikkur Cholim, Paul Cohen
Brotherhood, by committee
Building, David Gellman
Bylaws, Richard Inlander
Family/Children's Havurah, Sue Douglass & Jill Rose
Education, Bill Goldstein
Finance, Don Albert
Membership, Robin Leonard
Newsletter, by committee
Oneg, Bill Ashley-Dobbin & Lawney Baldwin
Past Presidents Council, Cheryl Orvis
Public Relations, Sharyn Saslafsky & Andy Zimmerman
Ritual, Steve Greenberg
Social Action, Ami Zusman
Social Program, by committee
Women's Havurah, by committee

Data Managers:

Alita Rosenfeld
Jerry Rosenstein

Office Managers:

Jenny Helbraun
Jacqueline Letalien

Office Hours: To be announced.

Emergency Number: In an emergency, the Congregation can be contacted outside of office hours by calling 420-9718.

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav (Congregation of the Golden Gate) is located in the Upper Market District of San Francisco at 220 Danvers at Caselli, which is one block south of the intersection of 18th & Market streets. By public transport, take MUNI bus 33 Ashbury to 18th & Danvers and walk one block south on Danvers to Caselli.

Member Union of American Hebrew Congregations and World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations.

Oneg Sponsors

During November onegs were sponsored by the following generous people:

- 6 Tom Rothgiesser and George Lucas, in honor of their many years together
- 20 Ron Moskowitz, in memory of his father, George Moskowitz
- 27 Bill Ashley-Dobbin and Lawney Baldwin, in honor of all the oneg workers

All you have to do to sponsor an oneg is to think of the occasion and contact the synagogue office (861-6932). The cost of sponsoring a complete oneg is \$80 or, for partial sponsorship, \$50. You can also provide the food, flowers, etc. for a more personal touch.

Classified Ads

OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE. Share Civic Center penthouse suite. 1, 2, or 3 offices now available. Lawyer, other professional, or small business. Amenities include: reception, secretarial space, law library, conference room, xerox and phone. Reasonable rent. Law Offices of Paul Wotman. Contact Tony at 864-1900.

JEWISH WOMAN ROOMMATE. Lovely Noe Valley flat. Quiet yard, piano, w/d. Lighthearted, communicative. Cat lover. \$450. 821-3837.

TAI CHI CLASS with Lolma Olson, Instructor. Ancient Chinese Form/A Moving Meditation. Wednesday nights, 5:30–7:00 pm. Starts January 27, Calvary Presbyterian Church, Fillmore at Jackson. \$40/mo. Demonstration class January 13, 5:30–6:30 pm. Pacific Presbyterian Medical Center, Merrill Room. For information and/or registration call 472-3772.

PROFESSIONAL GM, 29, seeks co-buyer(s) for 2–4 unit building/house in City. For residence or investment. Call Glenn at 928-4277.

New Members

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that our congregation gained several new members in November. A warm welcome to the latest people to join our family:

Steven Berlin
Ellen Gierson, Marianne Camp
& Chris
Katy Rose Lusson
Mark Vogel & Kenton Hoover

New members are welcomed and honored at Friday night services on the last Friday of the month. By making them feel a part of our family, we can all help to show our new members that they have a valuable place at Sha'ar Zahav.



220 Danvers at Caselli

San Francisco, California 94114

(415) 861-6932

January 28, 1988

To all Sha'ar Zahav members,

This issue of The Forward contains news regarding some positive developments in Cheryl Orvis's bone marrow treatment at the University of Iowa. Unfortunately, that progress was not sustained, and we are saddened to announce that Cheryl -- Past President, member and dear friend to many at Sha'ar Zahav -- died on January 26, ending a strenuous battle against cancer.

The funeral is scheduled for noon, Friday, January 29 at Sinai Memorial Chapel in San Francisco, with burial at Hills of Eternity (Sherith Israel Cemetery) in Colma.

Although this funeral announcement will reach most members after Friday, a service and gathering (minyan) is scheduled for 7:00 p.m., Sunday, January 31 at 424 Central Avenue in San Francisco.

The family requests that any contributions be made in Cheryl's memory to the synagogue.

"May her memory be for a blessing."

